overloading of goods vehicles was also conducted from February, March and May, 1997 and 1874 vehicles were prosecuteb/off-loaded.

(ii) All new vehicles are checked for pollution emission levels at the time of registration and only vehicles conforming to the prescribed standards are registered.

(iii) Regular inspection on maintenance is conducted on the bus fleet under the Delhi Transport corporation and buses found defaulting are sent to the concerned depots for corrective action, a Pollution Control Cell has been established in the Delhi Transport Corporation. This cell is equipped with instruments for measuring smoke levels. However, a number of buses due to overloading and over - age tend to emit smoke under such conditions.

(iv) Intensive awareness campaigns have been launched by Transport Departments of cities such as Delhi, to educate people about the statutory punitive provisions related to vehicular pollution, health hazards and measures for keeping the emission levels low.

(v) The Association of Indian Automobile manufacturers have been conducting free pollution checking facilities and organised a number of free pollution checking camps.

(vi) A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations has been set up to monitor the major air quality parameters' to understand their trends and take appropriate measures.

(vii) Unleaded petrol has been introduced in four metros of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai since 1.4.1995.

(viii) Stricter emission norms for vehicles at the manufacturing stage are to be introduced from 1.4.2000 for all categories of petrol and diesel vehicles.

(ix) The Government has drawn up a major programme for improvement of the quality of the automotive fuels including introduction of low-sulphur diesel.

Adivasis of Melghat Forest Area

1147. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) [he total Forest Cover of die Melghat Forest Areas in the Amravati district of Maharashtra;

(b) out of this the area under the reserved forest;

(c) how many villages and habitations are there in this forest and out of this how many are in the reserved areas;

(d) how many Adivasi persons live in this area and how many are non-advisis;

(e) whether the Department is aware about the deaths of thousands of children due to malnourishment which have taken place duing the last few years in this forest; and

(f) what has this Department done to help the forest dwellers prevent the juvenile deaths?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

कुल्लू में ग्रेट नेशनल हिमालय पार्क

1148. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) कुल्लू जिले में प्रस्तावित ग्रेट नेशनल हिमाचल पार्क के निर्माण हेतु कुल कितनी भूमि का अधिग्रहण किया गया है;

(ख) इस परियोजना से कितने परिवार प्रभावित हुये;